

National Wildlife Refuge Offices

❶ Ottawa 419/898 0014

Ecological Services Office

❷ Reynoldsburg 614/469 6923

Law Enforcement Offices

❸ Delaware 614/368 0137

❹ Sandusky 419/625 9713

The mission
of the
**United States
Fish & Wildlife
Service** is
“working
with others to
***conserve,
protect,
and
enhance***
fish and wildlife
and their habitats
for the continuing
benefit of the
American people”



Introduction

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is the principal federal agency responsible for conserving, protecting, and enhancing fish and wildlife and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. The Service's nearly 93 million acres include 514 National Wildlife Refuges, 78 Ecological Services field stations, 66 National Fish Hatcheries, 50 wildlife coordination areas, and 38 wetland management districts with waterfowl production areas.

The agency enforces federal wildlife laws, manages migratory bird populations, restores nationally significant fisheries, conserves and restores wildlife habitat such as wetlands, administers the Endangered Species Act, and helps foreign governments with their conservation efforts.

The Service also oversees the Federal Aid program that distributes federal excise taxes on fishing and hunting equipment to state wildlife agencies. This program is a cornerstone of the nation's wildlife management efforts, funding fish and wildlife restoration, boating access, hunter education, shooting ranges, and related projects across America.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Director Jamie Rappaport Clark has indicated four conservation goals she would like the Service to focus on in the coming year. These goals are:

- Strengthening our ecosystem approach to fish and wildlife conservation
- Lifting the conservation of migratory birds to a higher level
- Leading the effort to prevent the introduction and spread of invasive species
- Setting the course for the future of America's National Wildlife Refuge System





Regional Highlights

Great Lakes - Big Rivers

*Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota,
Missouri, Ohio and Wisconsin*

Regional Goal

Our Regional goal is to work shoulder to shoulder with the states, tribes and our many other partners. In this way, we will achieve our vision of ***a better place for fish and wildlife*** and the people who enjoy them.

1998 Regional Facts

- Employment: 959 people
- Managed Acres: 1.2 million
- 4,962 volunteers donated 224,952 hours to help with Service projects
- 104,325 school children participated in Service educational programs
- Over 6.8 million people visited Service facilities throughout Region 3. Of these:
 - 534,179 hunted
 - 1,017,142 fished
 - 3,579,339 visited to view wildlife

Refuge Program Facts

- 54 National Wildlife Refuges and nine Wetland Management Districts
- More than 240,000 acres in waterfowl production areas

Other Regional Programs and Offices

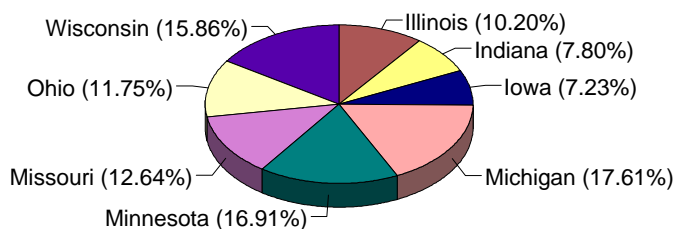
- Five National Fish Hatcheries
- 11 Fisheries stations
- 10 Ecological Services offices
- 21 Law Enforcement offices

Federal Aid Program

In Fiscal Year 1998, the Region's Federal Aid Office managed \$87.5 million to help strengthen sport fish and wildlife restoration programs throughout the states within Region 3.

Federal Aid Apportionments FY1998

Region 3 States' Share of \$87.5 Million:



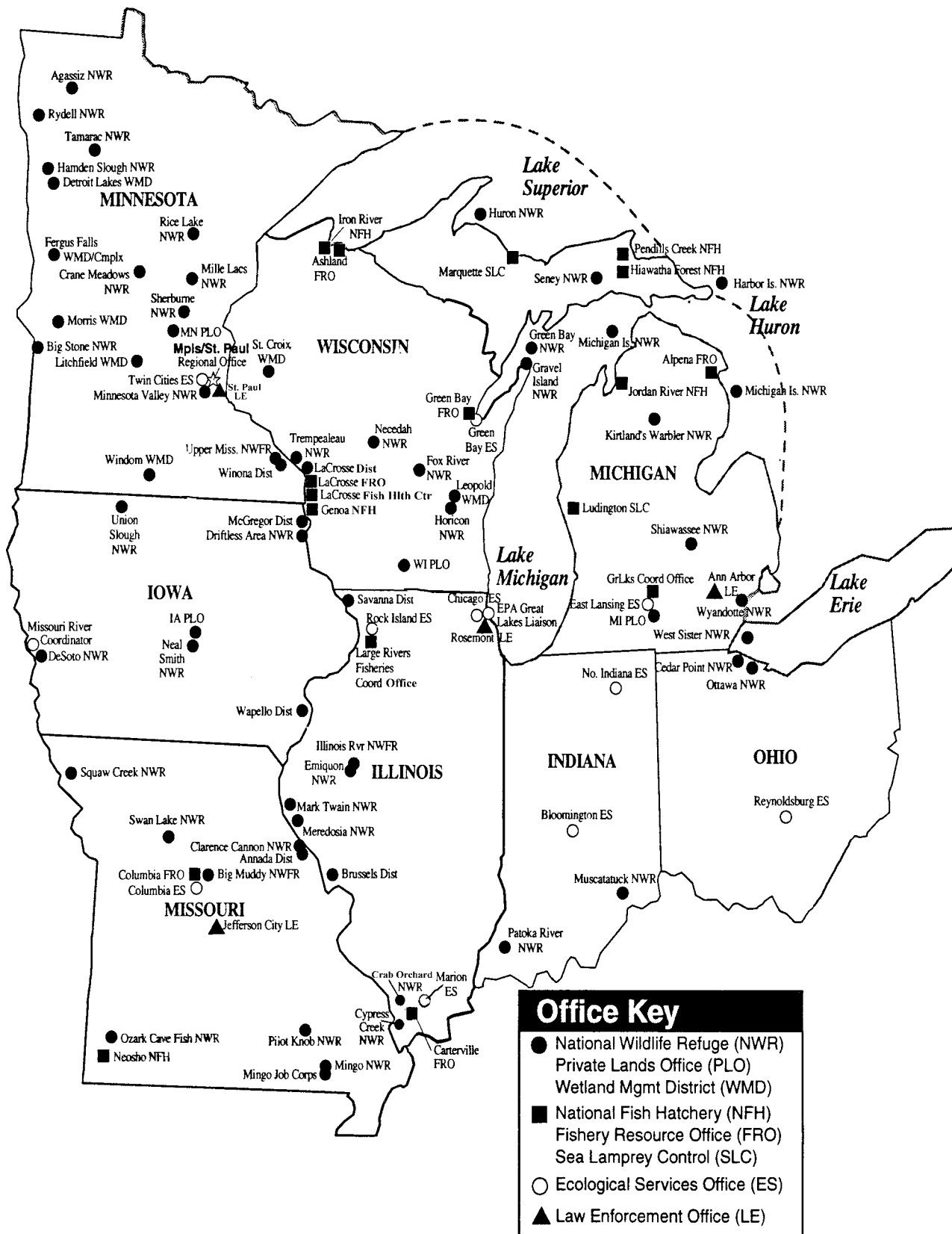
The Region is Committed to:

- Healthy fish and wildlife trust species (migratory birds, endangered species and interjurisdictional fish) populations, and habitats that support them
- Providing the public with quality hunting, fishing, wildlife watching, and other recreational opportunities on Service lands
- Expanded partnerships, which offer innovative opportunities to enhance the nation's fish and wildlife resources
- A clearly defined U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service organization dedicated toward employee excellence, reflecting the nation's rich diversity and providing quality service and decision-making closer to the resources in our trust



Region 3

Great Lakes - Big Rivers





Ohio

State Highlights

1998 Ohio State Facts

- Employment: 22 people
- 80 volunteers donated 8,710 hours to help with Fish and Wildlife Service projects

National Wildlife Refuge Facts

- Three National Wildlife Refuges in Ohio total 8,316 acres
- In 1998, 123,010 people visited Refuges in Ohio. Of these:
 - 1,487 people hunted
 - 1,297 people fished
 - 564,732 people visited to view wildlife
- 2,089 school children participated in Service educational programs
- An economic study reveals that ecotourism to the Toledo, Ohio, area, primarily from bird watchers coming to the Ottawa NWR and the adjoining Magee Marsh State Wildlife Area, adds \$5.6 million to local economy

Federal Aid to State Fish and Wildlife Programs

In 1998 Ohio received:

- \$6.5 million for sport fish restoration
- \$4.1 million for wildlife restoration and hunter education

Partners for Fish and Wildlife

- With state partners, the Service helped private landowners restore 369 wetlands totaling 2,126 acres of fish and wildlife habitat

River Remediations

- Service biologists are working with other agencies to plan remedial actions on the Maumee, Black, Cuyahoga and Ashtabula rivers in Ohio
- The Reynoldsburg Field Office plays an important role in identifying and remediating damage to fish and wildlife and their habitats due to release of environmental contaminants

Darby Prairie National Wildlife Refuge Proposal

- Currently preparing a management plan and related environmental review material for this proposed National Wildlife Refuge located northwest of Columbus

Endangered Species Recovery Actions

- Currently working with government and nongovernment partners on reintroduction of the federally endangered Karner blue butterfly and American burying beetle
- The Service and the Ohio Division of Wildlife have an ongoing successful outreach effort directed towards recovering the Lake Erie water snake which is located on islands within Lake Erie
- The Service, along with the Ohio Division of Wildlife and the Ohio Division of Soil and Water, are working with interested landowners to preserve and enhance the only known breeding population of the federally endangered Purple cat's paw pearl mussel



Ohio

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U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Ottawa

National Wildlife Refuge

Contacting the refuge:

14000 West State Route 2
Oak Harbor, OH 43449
Phone: 419/898 0014
Fax: 419/898 7895
TTY: 1-800-750-0750 (Ohio Relay)
<http://www.fws.gov/r3pao/>

Refuge Manager: Larry D. Martin
e-mail: larry_d_martin@mail.fws.gov

Located 8 miles east of
Oregon, Ohio, on State Road 2



Refuge Facts

- The Ottawa Refuge Complex is made up of three refuges: Ottawa NWR, Cedar Point NWR and West Sister Island NWR
- Ottawa NWR was established in 1961 and contains three units: Ottawa, Navarre and Darby covering 5,794 acres
- Cedar Point NWR was established in 1964 and covers 2,445 acres
- West Sister Island NWR was established in 1937 and all of its 77 acres were designated as wilderness in 1975

Natural History

- Almost 98 percent of the original wetlands in northwest Ohio have been lost to development and agriculture
- The western Lake Erie basin wetlands lie at the intersection of the Mississippi and Atlantic flyways
- As much as 70 percent of the Mississippi flyway population of black ducks use Lake Erie marshes for migration
- Ottawa NWR is a major migration corridor and stopover area for migrating waterfowl and other birds

Refuge Objectives

- Restore optimum acreage to a natural floodplain condition
- Improve and restore wetland habitat
- Improve fishery and wildlife resources
- Provide for biodiversity
- Provide public opportunities for outdoor recreation and environmental education

Management Tools

- Wetland restoration
- Moist soil management
- Water management
- Cooperative farming
- Outreach and environmental education

Public Use Opportunities

- Hunting, fishing and trapping
- Environmental education
- Wildlife observation
- Hiking





U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Reynoldsburg

Ecological Services Field Office

Contacting the office:

6950-H Americana Parkway
Reynoldsburg, OH 43068-4127
Phone: 614/469 6923
Fax: 614/469 6919
TTY: 1-800-750-0750 (Ohio Relay)
<http://www.fws.gov/r3pao>

Field Supervisor: Kent Kroonemeyer
e-mail: kent_kroonemeyer@mail.fws.gov



Office Facts

- Established: 1978

Office Goals

- Emphasize work on federal trust resources, migratory birds, endangered and threatened species, interjurisdictional fish, and Service-owned lands
- Protect and enhance federal trust resources under law such as the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, Clean Water Act, Endangered Species Act, Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act, and Farm Bills
- Work with federal and state agencies and private organizations on federal trust resource fish and wildlife issues in Ohio

Services Provided To

- Private citizens
- Federal, state and local agencies
- Conservation organizations

Activity Highlights

- Participating in interagency team effort to reduce sediments entering Maumee River and Toledo Harbor
- Assisting in preparation of four Remedial Action Plans for the Maumee, Black, Cuyahoga, and Ashtabula rivers
- Assisting with Ashtabula River Partnership effort to remove contaminated sediments from the Ashtabula River
- Coordinating with federal and state agencies and private consultants to establish wetland mitigation banks
- Working with private partners, state and federal agencies to restore wetland and riparian habitats in Ohio
- Consulting with other federal agencies and coordinate with state agencies on 21 federally endangered and threatened species
- Responsible for completing the planning process on the proposed Darby Prairie National Wildlife Refuge
- Working with federal, state and non-governmental agencies to clean up contaminated sites and restore fish and wildlife resources
- Coordinating recovery actions on the Lake Erie water snake, and the federally endangered Karner blue butterfly, American burying beetle, and Purple cat's paw pearlymussel



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Delaware

Law Enforcement Field Office

Contacting the office:

359 Main Road

Delaware, OH 43015

Phone: 614/368 0137

Fax: 614/368 0135

TTY: 1-800-750-0750 (Ohio Relay)

<http://www.fws.gov/r3pao>



Office Facts

- Established: 1996
- The Delaware Field Office is administered by the Ann Arbor, Michigan Field Office

Law Enforcement Objectives

- To protect and conserve native and foreign wildlife through the enforcement of federal laws
- To promote and encourage voluntary compliance with federal wildlife laws through public education and the creation of a deterrent effect

Law Enforcement Priorities

- To investigate violations that have a significant impact on wild populations of federally protected species, such as those violations involving commercial exploitation and/or habitat destruction and modification
- To investigate violations that involve wild populations of species protected by state or foreign laws, with emphasis on interstate and foreign commercial exploitation
- To provide support and assistance to enforcement activities on Service lands, such as National Wildlife Refuges, and to other federal agencies on lands they oversee
- To promote awareness of, and support for, federal wildlife laws and the role of law enforcement in protecting our wildlife resources and heritage



Laws Enforced

- Migratory Bird Treaty Act
- Duck Stamp Act
- Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act
- National Wildlife Refuge Act
- Lacey Act
- Airborne Hunting Act
- Endangered Species Act
- Marine Mammal Protection Act
- Archaeological Resource Protection Act
- African Elephant Conservation Act
- Wild Exotic Bird Conservation Act



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Sandusky

Law Enforcement Field Office

Contacting the office:

6100 Columbus Avenue

Sandusky, OH 44870

Phone: 419/625 9713

Fax: 419/929 0250

TTY: 1-800-750-0750 (Ohio Relay)

<http://www.fws.gov/r3pao>



Office Facts

- Established: 1982
- The Sandusky Field Office is administered by the Ann Arbor, Michigan Field Office

Law Enforcement Objectives

- To protect and conserve native and foreign wildlife through the enforcement of federal laws
- To promote and encourage voluntary compliance with federal wildlife laws through public education and the creation of a deterrent effect



Law Enforcement Priorities

- To investigate violations that have a significant impact on wild populations of federally protected species, such as those violations involving commercial exploitation and/or habitat destruction and modification
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Laws Enforced

- Migratory Bird Treaty Act
- Duck Stamp Act
- Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act
- National Wildlife Refuge Act
- Lacey Act
- Airborne Hunting Act
- Endangered Species Act
- Marine Mammal Protection Act
- Archaeological Resource Protection Act
- African Elephant Conservation Act
- Wild Exotic Bird Conservation Act



Ohio

North American Waterfowl Management Plan

Contacting the program:

BHW Federal Building
1 Federal Drive
Ft. Snelling, MN 55111-4056
Phone: 612/713 5433
Fax: 612/713 5286
TTY: 1-800-657-3529 (Minnesota Relay)
<http://www.fws.gov/r3pao>

Joint Venture Coordinator: Jim Leach
e-mail: jim_leach@mail.fws.gov



State Contact

Pat Ruble
Ohio Division of Wildlife
1840 Belcher Drive
Columbus, OH 43224-1329
Phone: 614/265 6330
FAX: 614/262 1143

About the "Plan"

- An international agreement signed in 1986
- Goal: return waterfowl populations to levels of the mid 1970's
- Achieve goal by restoring and protecting wetland and grassland habitat
- Includes 13 habitat joint ventures and two species joint ventures in the U.S., Canada, and Mexico

Partner Involvement

- Private landowners
- Nonprofit organizations
- Corporations
- Local, state and federal agencies

Habitat Accomplishments

- Restored over 11,500 acres of drained wetlands and converted grasslands
- Seeded retired cropland to native grasses
- Protected floodplain and stream habitat
- Protected coastal wetlands

Ohio Projects

Wetland and grassland restorations within:

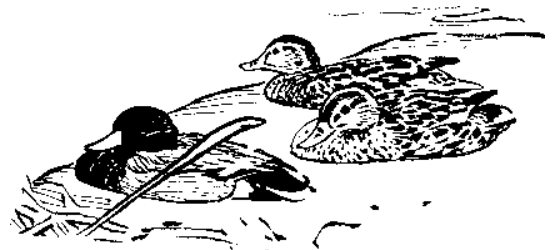
- Pickerel Creek I and II
- Metzger's Marsh
- Funk Bottoms
- Mosquito Creek/Grand River Coastal Wetlands
- State and federal lands
- Private lands statewide through voluntary participation

Financial Assistance

- Matching dollars from partners totaling over \$7.8 million
- North American Wetland Conservation Act grants; 10 grants totaling over \$3.3 million
- North American Waterfowl Management Plan dollars totaling over \$200,000

Public Benefits

- Increased recreational opportunities
- Enhanced wildlife diversity
- Improved community relations
- Enhanced floodwater storage
- Improved water quality
- Broad coalition of partnerships supporting "voluntary" wetland preservation





Ohio

Federal Aid

Sport Fish and Wildlife Restoration

Contacting the program:

BHW Federal Building
1 Federal Drive
Ft. Snelling, MN 55111-4056
Phone: 612/713 5130
Fax: 612/713 5290
TTY: 1-800-657-3529 (Minnesota Relay)
<http://www.fws.gov/r3pao>

Assistant Regional Director: Bradley Johnson
e-mail: bradley_johnson@mail.fws.gov



Where the money comes from

Federal excise taxes paid by hunters, anglers, and boaters on hunting and fishing equipment, a portion of the federal fuel tax, and import duties on fishing tackle and pleasure boats.

What the money can be used for

Fish and wildlife research, habitat enhancement, technical assistance to private landowners, environmental review of public projects, land acquisition, operation and maintenance of areas and facilities, boating and angler access improvements, comprehensive planning for fish and wildlife resources, and hunter and aquatic education.

Number of participants and economic benefits to Ohio

■ Fishing

Number of anglers..... 1.23 million
Fishing expenditures..... \$836 million

■ Hunting

Number of hunters..... 479,000
Hunting expenditures..... \$514 million

How much money is involved (1998 apportionments)

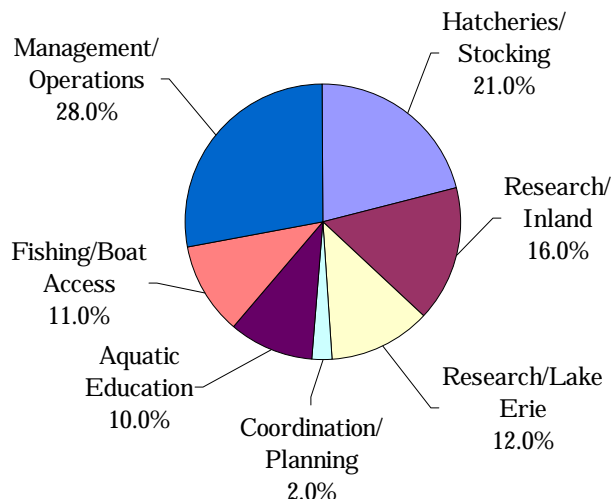
Sport Fish Restoration..... \$6.5 million
Wildlife Restoration..... \$4.1 million

Federal Aid Success Story

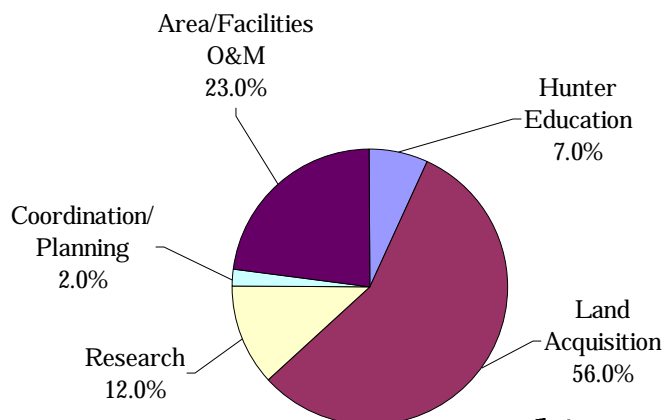
Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration dollars helped the state of Ohio meet their wildlife management goals with significant land acquisitions for a wildlife restoration project. The Tri-Valley Wildlife Area was purchased for \$4.5 million. This 16,200-acre reclaimed strip mine will now benefit wildlife and wildlife enthusiasts in the state.

Federal dollars at work in Ohio

Use of Sport Fish Restoration Funds



Use of Wildlife Restoration Funds





Ohio

Migratory Bird Conservation

Contacting the program:

BHW Federal Building
1 Federal Drive
Ft. Snelling, MN 55111-4056
Phone: 612/713 5458
Fax: 612/713 5286
TTY: 1-800-657-3529 (Minnesota Relay)
<http://www.fws.gov/r3pao>

Chief, Division of Migratory Birds: Steve Wilds
e-mail: steve_wilds@mail.fws.gov



Inventory and Monitoring

- Woodcock Singing Ground Survey
- Mourning Dove Call Count Survey
- Mid-Winter Waterfowl Survey
- Waterfowl banding program
- Great Lakes Colonial Waterbird Survey
- Nongame bird inventories on National Wildlife Refuge System lands

Research

- Study of double-crested cormorant foraging behavior in Lake Erie
- Status assessment of the double-crested cormorant in the Great Lakes
- Study of habitat use and movements of staging black ducks and mallards in Ohio

Management

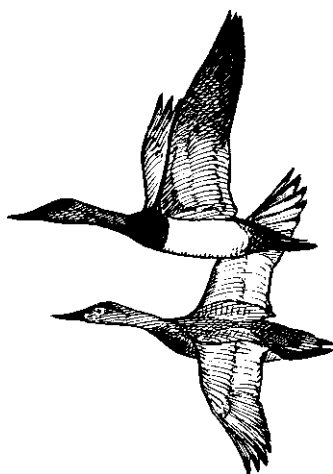
- Wetland protection, restoration and enhancement
- Grassland protection, restoration and enhancement
- Bottomland hardwood restoration
- Hunting regulations development
- Issuance of 18 types of migratory bird permits

Partnerships

- Ohio Department of Natural Resources
- Ohio State University
- U.S.G.S. Biological Resources Division
- Black Swamp Bird Observatory

Outreach

- International Migratory Bird Day
- Junior Duck Stamp Contest
- Fact sheets on double-crested cormorants





U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Ohio

Partners for Fish and Wildlife

Contacting the Program:

Reynoldsburg Ecological Services Office
6950-H Americana Parkway
Reynoldsburg, OH 43068
Phone: 614/469 6923
Fax: 614/469 6919
TTY: 1-800-750-0750 (Ohio Relay)
<http://www.fws.gov/r3pao>

State Coordinator: Kent Kroonemeyer
e-mail: kent_kroonemeyer@mail.fws.gov



Local Coordination Offices

North	Ottawa NWR	419/898 0014
South	Reynoldsburg FO	614/469 6923

Opportunities on Private Lands

Habitat Restoration

- Wetlands and Associated Uplands
- Migratory Bird Habitat
- Watersheds of National Wildlife Refuges
- Voluntary Participation

Technical Assistance

- Wetland and Conservation Reserve Programs
- Wetlands Conservation Provisions
- Farm Service Agency
- Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program

Partnerships

- U.S. Department of Agriculture
- Local Soil and Water Conservation Districts
- Private conservation organizations
- Ohio Department of Natural Resources

1998 Funding and Special Projects

- \$170,000 for habitat restoration and technical assistance
- Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge and Lake Erie Watersheds
- Wetland Heritage Fund
- Lower Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Basin Joint Venture

Wetland Restorations (1987 - 1998)

- 369 sites
- 2,126 acres





Ohio

Division of Realty

Contacting the program:

BHW Federal Building

1 Federal Drive

Ft. Snelling, MN 55111-4056

Phone: 612/713 5410

Fax: 612/713 5290

TTY: 1-800-657-3529 (Minnesota Relay)

<http://www.fws.gov/r3pao>

Chief: William Swanson

e-mail: William_Swanson@mail.fws.gov



Ascertainment and Planning

- Before a new refuge is established, or the boundary of an existing refuge is significantly revised, the Service completes a detailed planning process to consider the effects of the proposed actions. A team of biologists and planners identify potential new lands to be acquired or preserved in some other way. The team works with local communities, landowners, state agencies, private conservation groups, and other interested parties to carefully plan where new lands and waters should be protected or restored for endangered species, migratory birds or other nationally important fish and wildlife conservation purposes.
- The Service is also required to prepare management plans for existing refuges. These Comprehensive Conservation Plans (CCP) detail management direction on refuges for a 15 year period. The Planning staff ensures that all planning efforts comply with National Environmental Policy Act requirements.
- Public involvement is an important component of all these planning processes.

1998 Ohio Activities

- Land acquisition activities, using the Land and Water Conservation Fund, occurred at the 8,323-acre Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge Complex

Land Acquisition

- The Realty Division's staff of appraisers and realty specialists works with landowners who have indicated an interest in selling their property, or property interests, to the Service. The appraisers determine fair market value and the realty specialists make the fee-title or easement purchases from these willing landowners. Lands are acquired by using funds from:
 - The Migratory Bird Conservation Fund (received from the sale of Federal Duck Stamps)
 - The Congressionally appropriated Land and Water Conservation Fund
 - Natural Resource Damage Assessments

Realty Management

- Once properties are acquired, the Realty Management staff is responsible for managing real estate records for over one million acres of Service owned lands throughout Region 3.

The Realty Management staff also:

- Works to assure that counties receive revenue sharing payments
- Processes non-funded land acquisition such as exchanges, donations, transfers and withdrawals
- Processes right-of-way permits across Service owned land
- Provides surveying capabilities for land acquisition and boundary retracement
- Produces cartographic products for Service use